Vincent Peirani

Living Being IV

Time Reflections

ACT

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ACT 9068-2

01	**Le Cabinet des Énigmes**	05:49
02	**L.L**	07:10
03	**Physical Attraction**	06:20
	Time Reflections	
04	**Clessidra**	08:02
05	**Better Days**	05:05
06	**Inner Pulse**	09:26
07	**Nach E Vlado**	03:53
08	**Bremain Suite**	08:45
	(Under Pressure – Glory Box – I Want You)	
09	**Phantom Resonanz**	05:25

Vincent Peirani accordion, accordina
Emile Parisien soprano saxophone
Julien Herne bass
Tony Paeleman piano, keyboards, Fender Rhodes
Yoann Serra drums

Music composed by Vincent Peirani except #8
Produced by Amélie Salembier & Vincent Peirani / Yes les Guy'zz

THE ACT COMPANY

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Yesterday, 2011: Vincent, Yoann, Tony, Julien... and one more. A group of pals, each one having left Nice independently and ended up in Paris. They adopt Emile, also from Southern France, but from further west. *Today:* natural affinities, a leader who calls the shots, and they use jazz to embrace a wide musical spectrum, from Baroque music to teen pop, from traditions of the Balkans to sounds of Africa. *Tomorrow:* with their flair for narrative, for creating a scenario, and their mastery of dynamics, every concert is and will be a celebration of excellence.

Listening to "Living Being IV: Time Reflections", we are immediately struck by the range of dynamics, the intimacy and extroversion at play in every detail, the rich textures, and the arrangements that allow for riveting moments of surprise. It's worth remembering that, from the outset with *Living Being*, Vincent Peirani brought to the fore the concept of chamber music: a small number of performers, with each one playing a unique part, but with the emphasis on the collective rather than the individual.

From the start, with *Le Cabinet des Énigmes*, the melodic intelligibility is impressive. A sort of children's song sublimated by the art of superimposing transparencies. Everything is played out in a myriad of details that create a perpetual motion. Further on, in *Better Days*, the motif heard – it came to Vincent Peirani while improvising during one of the COVID-19 lockdowns – conveys the fragility of a slow waltz emerging from the darkness to provide a glimpse of a radiant future.

Three of the tracks, *Clessidra*, *Inner Pulse* and *Bremain Suite*, are much longer than any of the pieces on *Living Being's* previous albums. The narrative and the distribution of the parts made this inevitable. We can feel here the trust that has been built up over the years, so natural, and without the slightest tension. They all tell the same story with different colors.

This album represents perhaps Vincent Peirani's most faithful self-portrait to date. It has as its centerpiece *Time Reflections*, a suite in three movements, *Clessidra*, *Better Days* and *Inner Pulse*, each of which is also a suite (in 3, 3, and 4 parts, respectively). This nested construction is totally in keeping with Vincent's true nature: he is an architect, constantly mindful of even the smallest details.

Back to the future for *Phantom Resonanz*: An unlikely encounter between the sixteenth-century polyphony of the Franco-Flemish composer Cipriano de Rore and the contemporary approach of German pianist Michael Wollny. The result is disarming in its simplicity, and even more convincing since the accordion plays a pivotal role.

In both *L.L.* and *Bremain Suite*, variations in tempo play a major role. *L.L*, a tribute to Lionel Loueke, presents a Cubist portrait of the Beninese guitarist. The first half of the piece focuses on his tenderness and sensitivity, the second on his dazzling rhythms. With *Bremain Suite* Vincent Peirani returns to his love for putting his own spin on pop and rock songs written and recorded by other artists. After hesitating between *Under Pressure* by Queen and David Bowie, Portishead's *Glory Box* and The Beatles' *I Want You (She's So Heavy)*, he decided in the end to bring all three together, shaking up their tempos and bringing out a family resemblance already spotted as a teenager. Note Emile Parisien's bravura piece on *I Want You*.

Vincent Peirani spreads his antennae so far and wide that his four companions must be prepared for anything when he comes up with new pieces for the repertoire. A dub with an irresistible beat, such as *Physical Attraction*, inspired by voguing. And *Nach E Vlado*, reflecting a soft spot for the traditional melodies of the Balkans, especially Macedonia. In both cases, tradition is propelled into a form of expression that is infused with a fantastic appetite for every type of music.

Living Being? Five living beings, together forming one vibrant entity.

Alex Dutilh
Translation: Mary Pardoe

All tracks composed by Vincent Peirani except #8 – medley from *Under Pressure*, *Glory Box* & *I Want You*
Under Pressure composed by Freddie Mercury, David Bowie
Glory Box composed by Isaac Lee Hayes, Geoff Barrow, Adrian Utley, Beth Gibbons
I Want You composed by John Lennon, Paul McCartney
L.L is dedicated to Lionel Loueke
Phantom Resonanz is dedicated to Céline Foucaut

Recorded by Boris Darley at Studio des Bruères, France
Produced by Amélie Salembier & Vincent Peirani / Yes les Guy'zz
Mixed by Nic Hard
Mastered by Dave McNair
Artwork by Jérôme Witz
Band photo by Elisa Ramirez
Cover photo by Frank Siemers

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